

Barry Carter

From: Ed Flack [ed32404@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2008 8:50 PM
To: Milton Acton; Norma Brunson; Jean P Fanning; Betty Gall; Ruth Howard; Pat Hudson; Avis Keen; Peggy Kundo; Yvonne Lilleston; Pam Percy; Jim and Jane Prater; Hugh and Carla Roche; Michelle Santiny; Fred Sutter; Trish Valle; Betty Wachob; Chris Cook; Rita Chambers; Jacque Carter; Ed Flack (CC); Faye Myers; Betty Day; Wade Hudson; Winn Marsh; Mary Froelich; Thera Harris; A. C. Littleton; A. C. Littleton; Ginger Littleton; Alanna Cook; Eliese Moore; John Abramson (GM); Errol Barnes; Carolyn Foosee; Frances Carr; Susie Seymour
Subject: Letter to the Choir

The following letter was going to be mailed (USPS) to each of you tomorrow, Tuesday. I have made the decision to email the letter to you tonight.

December 2, 2008

Dear Choir Members and others on the Choir News email list,

Yesterday I made a terrible mistake, a mistake which I am sure has caused you untold distress, anger, and disappointment. I am truly sorry this has happened and I pray for your forgiveness, and pray God will forgive me for offending you so terribly.

For those unaware of what happened here is my explanation. I receive lots of advertisement email, and one which arrived in my email Sunday was from a site, TLA Video in Philadelphia, where I have previously purchased videos and DVDs of good films not readily available from other sources. TLA Video also sells porn. They send out emails frequently advertising regular films, and they occasionally send out emails advertising porn. In the past whenever a porn advertisement has been received, it has been deleted immediately.

When I checked Sunday's email Monday, when previewing (not clicking on) the TLA Video email I noticed the picture of the turkey at the top of the email, thought it was funny, and moved on to other email without checking the rest of the TLA Video email. I honestly had no idea what content was in the rest of the email, and had I taken a moment to check it when the email was previewed, would have deleted it. I later forwarded this email to John to ask if the turkey picture could be saved, still not checking the total content of the email. Unfortunately, after adding John's email address to the email, I must have clicked on the choir news email list instead of my own email list of three personal email address where I archive all email with a "blind copy" (Comcast, Gmail, and NetZero). Therefore, everyone on the choir news email list received a blind copy of the offending email.

Ten minutes later, at 1:40 p.m, I received an email reply from Fred Sutter stating "I hope nobody else got this." I immediately checked the "sent mail" email folder and discovered the porn email

had been blind copied to everyone on the choir news email list by mistake. At 1:52 p.m. I called Pastor Chris at the church to tell her what had happened (she was not in the office) and at 1:53 p.m. I called Pastor Chris on her cell phone and explained the whole, terrible situation.

The damage is done. A careless and stupid email mistake, and I feel a serious mistake in judgment, has caused each of you much distress, anger, disappointment, and I can only imagine what other terrible feelings you are experiencing by my carelessness. I am truly, truly sorry and can only beg for your forgiveness.

This incident has already caused and will continue to cause serious controversy among members of the choir and others who receive choir news by email. This incident will cause serious controversy among members of St. Andrew United Methodist Church and the church staff. Knowing how “events” are often likely to get out of control in a church environment after serving as a church musician in churches for 43 years now, the damage is done. My stupid, careless mistake, will cause controversy, and as we always heard in the Presbyterian Church in which I was raised “will damage the peace, unity, and purity of the church,” as long as I remain an employee of St. Andrew United Methodist Church.

Therefore, after much prayer and thought, and with the hope that my terminated employment at the church will help the pain of this incident to ease sooner rather than later, it is with great sorrow that I submit my resignation as Music Director of St. Andrew United Methodist Church, effective immediately.

I am aware this resignation will cause added difficulty for the choir and staff, especially since Christmas is so close, but right now I can see no alternative. I truly believe this action is best for the Church, Pastor Chris, the staff, and everyone at SAUMC.

You cannot imagine the tears that have been shed and the sorrow both John and I have felt over this incident. I would give anything to take back one careless click to send such a terrible and offensive email. You have been such wonderful colleagues in music and such dear, personal friends. To distress, anger, and disappoint you all in such a terrible and offensive way is inexcusable.

I hope and pray this incident, and my failure to live up to your expectations as a choir director with good judgment, will not in any way keep you from singing in the choir in the future. I will pray every day God sends you a new and worthy director. I will also pray God will remove the stain of the email from your heart and mind.

May God give us all peace and a continued assurance He is in control of all things, good and bad. May God, and you, offer me forgiveness for hurting you so terribly.

Sincerely,

Ed Flack

--

Ed Flack

ed32404@comcast.net

850-387-4824 Local Phone

850-387-0020 Local Phone

850-890-9224 Cell

850-387-1677 Fax

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.